M.O.M. NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 1987

VOL. 6 ISSUE 7

MEETING SCHEDULE:

SEPTEMBER 14

SEPTEMBER 28

OCTOBER 5

OCTOBER 19

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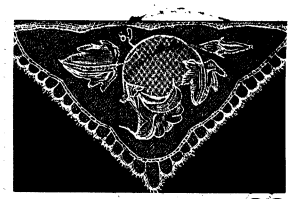
M.O.M

MICROS OF MONMOUTH
P.O. BOX 221
ENGLISHTOWN, N.J. 07726



Lacemaking USA 22

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Richard Dees
32 Tarrytown Road
Manalapan NJ 07726

M*O*M
Micros of Monmouth

The Newsletter of the
Computer Club of Monmouth, Inc.

The Computer Club of Monmouth, Inc. is a non-profit organization of ATARI computer enthusiasts and users who share a common interest in exchanging information about the programming and operation of the ATARI microcomputer system.

The club meets at the Manalapan High School at 8:00 PM on the first and third Mondays of each month. The meeting dates are changed or cancelled when a holiday or foul weather causes the school to be closed.

Neither M.O.M. newsletter or The Computer Club of Monmouth, Inc. is affiliated with Atari Corp or any of the subsidiary companies. All use of the word Atari or the Fuji logo is recognized as a trademark of Atari Corp.

The M.O.M. newsletter solicits from its members reviews, news, rumors, articles, original programs, classified ads, and any other material of interest for publication. All material submitted for publication should be given to the editor at the meetings or mailed to the club address.

The material printed in the M.O.M. newsletter may be freely copied. We request that credit be given to its authors and to M.O.M.. This newsletter is sent to paid-up members of the club and to other user groups on an exchange basis. User groups interested in exchanging newsletters should write to the club address.

The club supports its own Bulletin Board System that is on line 24 hours a day with a special section for M.O.M. members. The BBS is open to all types of computers after a name/address verification.

WHO'S WHO AT MOM

ELECTED OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	PAUL SACCONE 201-308-1840
VICE-PRESIDENT	BETTY KUBERSKI 201-634-8714
SECRETARY	PHIL PAONE 201-780-0535
PROGRAM CH.	MARC APPELBAUM 201-446-2522
DISK LIBRARIAN 8-BIT	ERIC PLENT 201-938-2473
DISK LIBRARIAN 16-BIT	JOEL FISHER 609-448-5189
DOC. LIBRARIAN	JOHN KRIEG 201-291-3156
CO-EDITOR	NORMAN WERSAN 201-264-4894
CO-EDITOR	IRWIN KAPLAN

SUBCOMMITTIES:

Acting Liason to Board of Education	FRANK FEZZA 201-446-4027
MOM'S BBS	ERIC PLENT 201-938-6906

MOM MEETING - 7/25/87
MOM MINUTES - JULY 6
by Phil Paone

The meeting was opened at 8:20 on 7/6/87 by Paul Sacchone. The new officers were introduced: Betty Kuberski, Vice President; Marc Applebaum, Program Chairman; Phil Paone, Secretary; Eric Plent, 8-bit librarian and in charge of the BBS and Norman Wersan co-editor of the MOM Newsletter.

A proposed format change of switching the question and answer period with the demos was brought before the membership. It was met with a mixed response and it was suggested that it be adopted for a two week trial period.

The current point allocation for the merit systyem was discussed.
Newsletter article 10 pts
Demo 4 pts
Bringing Equip. Home 6 pts
The highest 3 month total will receive a free box of MOM disks. The highest yearly total will receive a free membership to MOM.

The Atari Fair was discussed. Marc Applebaum will be supervising the contact of appropriate Atari personnel. The purpose is to bring about an increased interest in the Atari products.

MOM 3 1/2 inch disks will go on sale shortly. The price will be $15.00 per box of 10. (changed since this was discussed to $11.00). MOM will be ordering the disks for 99 cents each. The first order was placed for the mibnimum order of 50.

The MOM BBS is back on the air. The phone number is 938-6906.

The idea of Demos at the library was discussed as a means of getting people interested in MOM membership. They will be held at the county library on Signs Road in Manalapan. Marc Applebaum will make the necessary arrangements.

Marc Applebaum demoed ACTION!, a combination of C, PL/1, BASIC and PASCAL. Among its many features are cartridge based utilities and libraries. Eric Plant demoed his upgraded 130XE with emphasis on the larger RAM disks the machine could support

MOM MEETING - JULY 25, 1987
by Phil Paone

The meeting was opened at 8:20 by MOM President, Paul Sacchone.
Marc Applebaum brought in a few copies of ST Informer for the membership. It is a new monthly newspaper about happenings in the ST World. The price is $14.00 per year for new subscriptions.

MOM received mail from OSS explaining their discontinuation of the MAC 65 assembler. It will be offered at a reduced price of $45 + $3 shipping and handling until the end of July.

The new format of reversing Questions and Answers with demos has been abandoned due to poor response.

The current 8-bit disk library stands at 90 disks with 3 more planned by next meeting. The current 16-bit library stands at 11 with a new disk being put together.

The idea of the ST disk librarian being an elected officer was brought before the membership. The motion was passed without any dissenting votes. Joel Fisher was elected as the ST disk librarian retroactive to the assumption of duties by the other current MOM officers.

Upcoming demos planned are Alternate Reality for the first meeting in August and an ST graphics night for the second meeting in August.

Phil Paone demoed two submarine warfare games for the ST, Silent Service and Sub Battle. Silent Service was the more playable game, while Sub Battle was more accurate and more bug plagued.

Joel Fisher demoed PC Ditto. This is a software based IBM emulator for the ST. The only notable problem was its slowness with graphics.

The next meeting is planned for August 3, 1987.

NEWS FROM ATARI

Downloaded from GEnie by Marc L. Appelbaum

The Mega ST and the SX212 modem are at the last step before arriving. We have received pre-production samples. These are the first units off the line with all the same components, packaging, and production techniques as the real thing. We get a small number of these to test and make sure there are no last-minutes glitchjes. When we give the go-ahead, the next step is real production.

The Atari PC is looking likely for later this summer. The XEP-80 (for the 8-bits) is waiting on one part which turned out to have an inbcredibly long lead time on orders--once we have the part we'll turn these around ASAP>
The SLM804 Laser Printer is waiting on one final version of the software drivers that support it.

Now software from Atari includes the first titles in the Arrakis Advantage series of middle-school-level educational programs. There will be 17 in total, of which 4 have hit the stores already and the rest are in various stages of finalization.

Shortly after the SX212 modem hits, we will release an add-on package for 8-bit owners which is to contain an SIO cable and the program SX EXPRESS by Keith Ledbetter, as well as the new handler file. Of course, SX212 owners with the 8-bits can also use it through the 850 ihnterface using existing terminal programs set up for Hayes-compatible modems.

The blitter chip is working and is in the pre-production Mega ST's mentioned above. The AMY chip is still in development, and may still see the light of day -- some day. AMY is a stubborn beast.

Speaking of stubborn, Microsoft Write is also still in development. Nearly fin ished now, too, although a few small bugs remain to be expunged.

SHOW NEWS; Atari made history by becoming the first computer manufacturer to exhibit at NAMM, the National Association of Music Merchants show in Chicago. Sthe ST was present throughout the show in virtually every booth where there were MIDI instruments. Atari sales people at the show were beseiged by music dealers eager to sign up as Atari dealers. By the time this 4-day event was over, there were literally hundreds of dealer applications waiting to be approved. Before NAMM, Atari had 50 music stores as dealers -- it looks like there will be 250 when the new dealers are selected.

In other news from NAMM, Keyboard magazine announced the results of its latest reader survey. The Atari ST computer has rocketed into the #1 slot in the vital "Intent-to-buy" category ahead of perennial leader Macintoshl The word in Atari HQ is "Today MIDI -- tomorrow Desktop Publishingl"

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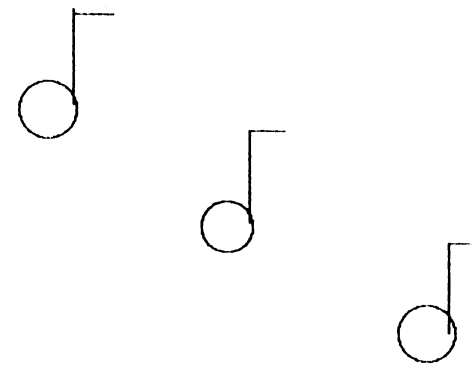

FROM THE INFO-ATARI 16 DIGEST

As far as I can tell Atari has sat on their Ass for 2 years while telling us of new things that will be out real soon. for example:

1] The Atari PC
2] The Blitter Chip
3] 8 slot device for the ST
4] Good documentation for the ST
5] The CD Rom device (I can buy a CD player for $129.00 can't you)
6] The 32 bit TT computer
7] GEM draw
8] GEM write
9] A new BASIC
10] The AMY sound chip
11] 80 column card for the 8 bit computers
12] 3.5 inch drive for the 8 bit computers
13] MS-DOS emulator box for the ST
14] A fix for the 40 folder limit

I just got some bad news from Dave Addison about two of his programs. Monopoly and Millebourne....was copywrit infringment. So rather than argue, Dave agreed to spread the (bas) news that all copies of his Monopoly and Millebourne are to be erased. They now fall under the category of pirated software.

rebut....About 5 years ago the copyright on Monopoly ran out. Monopoly is now is the public domain, and anyone who wants to can sell it.

Looking for PD word processors...

"For everyday word processing, however, I recommend you shell out $40 or so and buy a copy of PaperClip from Batteries Included (now owned by Electronic Arts). In fact, I also recommend you shell out another $50 and get some local guru to upgrade your XL or XE to a Rambo-compatible 256K. PaperClip 2.0 and a 256K Atari is an unbeatable combination for the price.

If PaperClip loads on a 256K machine, it sees the extra memory and allocates 112K for text, and 90K for the spelling dictionary....subsequently spelling checks are lightning fast, because there's no disk access."

"Concerning the remarks about memory upgrades to a 1040ST: I have a local dealer (L & Y Electronics in Woodbridge, VA) who provides both a 4-Meg ($899) and a 2 Meg ($499) upgrade to a 1040ST...nicely designed daughterboard fitting above the existing memory. By the way, that is the installed price.

Dave Clemans..To get to 4 megabytes, I installed an Aerco memory board into my ST (the Aerco board is also what is distributed by the E. Arthur Brown mail-order company). It it's relevant, I have a very early ST (with a rev A board).

The Aerco board can be used to take a 520 to 1 megabytes, 2.5 megabytes or 4 megabytes. Going to 1 or 2.5 megabytes everything is solderless; to go to 4 megabytes requires significant soldering on the memory daughter board, but no soldering to the ST itslef.

Publishing Partner miscellany

I've mentioned the good results possible with Publishing Partner and the Apple LaserWriter. SoftLogic is coming up with some support for this now. They have three series of disks out now:
1] CLIP ART, DEGAS-COMPATIBLE I BELIEVE.
2] POSTSCRIPT FONTS
3] NON-POSTSCRIPT FONTS, no good for LaserWriters but okay for everything else. includes some neat script and calligraphic fonts for invitations and notices. About $25 each. ...on the SoftLogic label...Don Rice

---

According to the July/August of Current Notes you will soon be able to upgrade your old 520-ST to a Mega ST style by changing the case. ...everything moved to the box..the hitch..you must buy a new slim-line keyboard.

RODENTS RUMORS

A Bit of Blit?

The long awaited blitter chip for the ST's will be available later this year. Current 4520's and 1040's will be able to handle the upgrade (so they say!) One question remains - Where will they put it? If you have been a little daring and opened up your ST you would find there are no empty sockets for it and there is no (that's absolutely no) room for a daughter board. As Compute's ST put it - Remember all those VIC and 64 upgrades that Commodore owners got?"

Lost and Found - AMY

Another one of Atari's old projects was tinkering with a supposedly state-of-the-art sound chip: the AMY. AMY was supposed to be installed first in an Atari music specialty computer (the 165XL). Then it was going into the 600 and 800 XL's. It never did. The word is that Atari just couldn't get it to work. Now they are experimenting with the ST's. If all goes well this upgrade would be available in the form of a cartridge. If anyone knows about the AMY'S technical potential, drop me a line.

Music To My Ears!

Rumor has it that Activision has just signed a deal with Casio for them to produce Music Studio 2, this includes a keyboard specifically codesigned with the new program to bring out the ST's best sounds.

The Rodent has run out of room, until next time, keep those ;eyes and ears alert for any interesting news.

Paul Saccone

Product Announcement

Synchro-Systems presents DXMATE, an integrated Computer Aided Voicing System for the Atari ST. The system includes a Voice Editor, Voice Generator, Sequencer, Voice Librarian and Bank Librarian

A demo disk is available - see librarian for more details and price.

Product Announcement:

FONT PARTNER

FROM INTERACTIVE MICROSYSTEMS FOR THE ATARI ST.

NOW YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN PRINTER AND SCREEN FONTS FOR SOFTLOGIK CORP'S PUB. PARTNER.

PRICE $24.95 SEE DOCUMENT LIBRARIAN FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT:

ST USER

See Ad in this issue of MOM
We will be getting 3 issues of ST User...again see the librarian.

Product Announcement

QUICK CODE

SEE AD IN THIS ISSUE

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

COMPUTALK TCS

INTERESTED IN DOWNLOADS FOR THE 8 BIT AND ST COMPUTERS? SEE LIBRARIAN FOR INFORMATION. SIX MONTHS ONLINE FOR ONLY $15.00. COMPUTALK IS LOCATED IN TEXAS.

QuickCode

The Programmer's Library

Who needs *Quick*Code?

BASIC Programmers

*Quick*Code's 110 familiar BASIC-like commands compile into FAST 100% machine language. *Quick*Code features full support for I/O, DOS operations, player-missile graphics, integer math, subscripted string handling, two dimensional string and numeric arrays, conditional branching, IF-ELSE type commands, and four types of loops to suit your every programming need. And you can even create your own commands! But there's more! *Quick*Code also supports many new, undocumented graphic modes and features PLOT and DRAWTO routines that are several times faster than those built into the operating system!

Assembly Programmers

*Quick*Code's command can be freely intermixed with assembly commands for the freedom you demand. And because *Quick*Code interfaces with MAC/65, you know you have the finest text editor, fastest compiler, and most powerful debugger on-line at all times!

Run time package is included at no extra charge. Only those routines required by your program will be compiled. No royalties required.

Who needs *Quick*Code?

YOU DO!

$49.99

Ask for QuickCode by name at your local dealer or order direct!

Indiana residents add 5% sales tax

Requires an ATARI XL/XE or 800 computer with at least 48 K, one disk drive, and MAC/65.

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Stardust Software
P. O. Box 33192
Indianapolis, IN 46203
(317) 788-7403

ST user

January 1987

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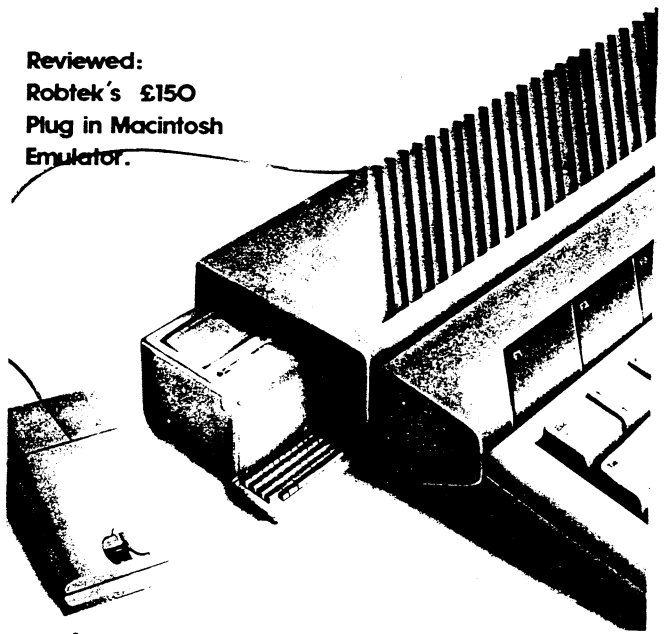
Reviewed:
Robtek's £150
Plug in Macintosh
Emulator.



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